

# The Trustees of Public Reservations

VOLUNTARILY SUPPORTED PRIVATELY ADMINISTERED

A Trust to Preserve for Public Enjoyment Beautiful and Historic Places in Massachusetts FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT 1948

#### HOW THE TRUSTEES WORK IS DONE.

The Trustees of Public Reservations was created by the Massachusetts General Court for the purpose of preserving beautiful and historic places. Inasmuch as change is the enemy of preservation, the Trustees look with suspicion on "improvements" which may alter the character of their properties. Consequently, amenities for public recreation, such as picnic groves and necesary service factors, are held down to the minimum required by safe maintenance and decency. The Trustees are definitely opposed to any "development" of their lands which would make them resemble an ordinary public park.

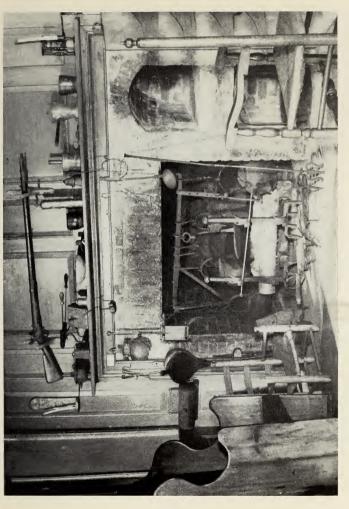
Guardianship of the reservations and the general policy affecting administration are delegated by the Trustees to a Standing Committee with power to act. This Standing Committee determines the policy guiding the care, maintenance, and use of each reservation. All recommendations for increase of landholdings, tree-felling, building of roads, trails, and similar undertakings affecting the permanent character of the areas, as well as the designs for structures such as seats, memorials, shelters, and service buildings, must have the approval of the Standing Committee before action is taken.

It is the policy of the Trustees to entrust the care of each of their reservations to a local committee, appointed by the Standing Committee and responsible to it. This local committee, acting in a voluntary capacity, represents the Standing Committee in the administration of the property for which it is appointed.

In managing the reservation under its care, it is the business of the local committee to uphold the principles of the Trustees as they are interpreted by the Standing Committee. The local committee may be authorized to receive income due the Trustees on account of any property. By this means and otherwise it is expected to help find the funds required to meet normal charges for upkeep. If any exceptional expenditures are anticipated, authorization must be secured from the Standing Committee. Lands held by the Trustees are exempt from taxation.

Each local committee is to submit annually to the Standing Committee a report covering its work for the year past, together with recommendations as to what should be done the year to come.

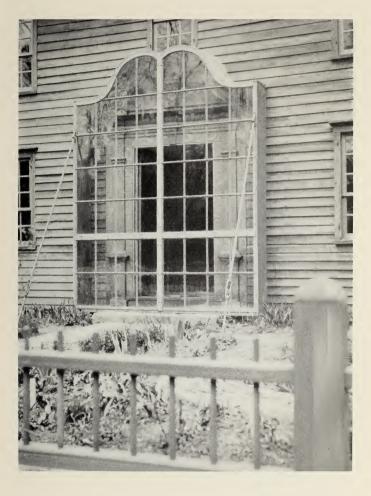
Special problems, not immediately soluble by a local committee, are referred to the office of the Trustees.



KITCHEN FIREPLACE, SHOWING MANY INGENIOUS UTENSILS: FIRE CARRIER, POCKET SUN DIAL, PIPE LIGHTER, ETC.



FRONT DOOR



WINTER STORM COVERING FOR DOOR

#### STOCKBRIDGE MISSION HOUSE

(From an article in The Berkshire Eagle, of October 2, 1948, abridged and corrected.)

The historic Mission House on Main Street, Stockbridge, erected in 1739 on Prospect Hill by a parish composed chiefly of Indians for Rev. John Sergeant, first missionary to the Stockbridge Indians was transferred by the Mission House Association to The Trustees of Public Reservations on October 2, 1948.

The Mission House Museum was established in 1929 by Miss Mabel Choate as a memorial to her parents, Joseph Hodges and Caroline Sterling Choate. Her father was one-time ambassador to the Court of St. James's.

Miss Choate had been eager to secure and preserve the Mission House for many years before the owners would consent to part with it. Finally it was very generously given by Mrs. Charles W. Mayer, in memory of her husband, and was taken down with great care in 1927 and moved piece by piece from Prospect Hill to its present location, as planned and supervised by Fletcher Steele, landscape architect.

Miss Choate has provided a trust fund to be known as the Stockbridge Mission House Endowment Fund for the maintenance, upkeep and repair of the building and grounds.

The Reverend John Sergeant, born in Newark, N. J. in 1710, was appointed missionary to the Stockbridge Indians upon the recommendations of Col. Stodard of Northampton, the Rev. Stephen Williams of Longmeadow and the Rev. Nehemiah Bull of Westfield. These three men had been appointed at the request of the Stockbridge Indians as a committee to find a religious director for the vanishing tribe.

Following his ordination at Old Deerfield, Sergeant visited Great Barrington and Stockbridge twice and finally settled in Stockbridge. For two years he lived among the Indians and slept in their wigwams. For the next three years Sergeant lived in a house in the village. In 1739, the year of his marriage, he built his house on Prospect Hill "to escape the miasmas of the plain."

During the twenty years since the establishment of the Mission House as a museum, Miss Choate has reassembled some of the original furnishings of the house as well as considerable Sergeant

PARLOR, FINE CREWEL CHAIR AND RARE AMERICAN EMBROIDERY FRAME ON TABLE.

memorabilia which were given her by Sergeant's descendants, who had treasured the pieces over the years, and she has also acquired other suitable furnishings of the period.

The original communion service used in 1739 was brought back from Red Spring, Wisconsin, and the highly valued Bible used by Sergeant was secured from the Stockbridge tribe at Green Bay, Wisconsin, who are direct descendants of the Stockbridge Indians. The Bible, printed in London, was a gift from the Rev. Francis Ayscough to the missionary "in that vast wilderness called New England." Ayscough was chaplain of the Prince of Wales.

From the ancestral home of the Choate family at Salem came a carved birch cane-seat chair, Jacobean style, and a carved chest brought by the first Choate to come to America about 1643. Sergeant's pine dresser with the original wooden pegs and the upper "terraces" which are closed by doors, was purchased by Miss Choate from Mr. William Pitt Palmer of Stockbridge. The ladderback study chair was bought from Robert Lincoln of New Lebanon, N. Y., a direct descedent of Sergeant. The kitchen table, a parlor highboy sideboard and two chairs came from the Carver family of Plymouth, one of whom was governor of the colony.

Miss Choate's priceless collection of Colonial pieces includes a number which the missionary and his wife, Abigail (daughter of Colonel Ephraim Williams and sister of the founder of Williams College), personally used or wore. None of the pieces dates later than 1749, the year of Sergeant's death.

Besides the Choate chest with drop ornaments, the Mission House exhibited to the public for the first time three years ago another gem of early American furniture, a Hadley Chest, made about 1675, which was a highly prized relic of the Butler family in Pittsfield for more than 160 years. Carved and paneled, with two drawers, it stands on low legs seven inches from the floor. The top, back and bottom are of pine, other portions, of oak.

Surrounding the Mission House are an old-fashioned garden of flowers, small vegetable plots and beds of striped grass, cared for by the curator, Arthur N. Bartlett. Behind the silvery gray clapboard house, a long wellsweep stands above its wellhead. The exquisitely designed doorway which was brought overland



SMALL STUDY. ORIGINAL CHAIR BELONGING TO JOHN SERGEANT AND ENGRAVINGS OF GEORGE WHITEFIELD AND COTTON MATHER.

from the Connecticut Valley, has attracted the attention of visiting architects and artists, and is similar to the one in the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum.

Visitors can see Mrs. Sergeant's cookbook, her wedding slippers and the pair of "second day slippers" traditionally worn by brides the second day after marriage. The childrens' room contains, among other things, a hobby horse, a maple desk, five miniature armchairs and two dolls in clothes two centuries old. Engravings dated 1641, a Queen Anne and two courting mirrors, 12 pieces of richly decorated delftware and 10 pieces of Thomas Whielden ware from his London Pottery, 1740, are on display in the parlor. Upstairs a piece that has attracted much attention is the folding bed of 1700 with an Indian print spread.

The kitchen holds many veritable treasures including a pine sideboard, spacious cupboards, great burl bowls and a birch ladle four feet long. The brick fireplace is furnished with an iron crane, kettles, porringers and shovels.



CHILD'S ROOM

#### THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS

#### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

1949

ROBERT WALCOTT, President
HENRY M. CHANNING, Vice President
ALLAN FORBES, Treasurer
LAURENCE B. FLETCHER, Secretary

#### STANDING COMMITTEE

CHARLES S. BIRD, East Walpole (Chairman)
HENRY M. CHANNING, Sherborn
WILLIAM ELLERY, Boston
ALLAN FORBES, Boston, ex officio
FRANCIS E. FROTHINGHAM, Cambridge
WILLIAM ROGER GREELEY, Lexington
FLETCHER STEELE, Boston
ROBERT WALCOTT, Cambridge
WILLIAM P. WHARTON, Groton

#### RESERVATIONS COMMITTEE

FLETCHER STEELE (Chairman)
WILLIAM ROGER GREELEY
MISS AMELIA PEABODY
LAURENCE B. FLETCHER, ex officio

#### INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Francis E. Frothingham (*Chairman*)

Edward Bigelow Alva Morrison

Henry M. Channing Dwight P. Robinson, Jr.

CHARLES S. BIRD

Council Member of the National Trust of England Representing The Trustees of Public Reservations

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TRUSTEES
50 Congress Street Boston 9, Massachusetts

#### VOTING MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION



#### TRUSTEES, 1949

John M. Abbot Charles Francis Adams Mrs. George R. Agassiz \*John S. Ames Robert T. Bamford Mrs. Hugh Bancroft Mrs. James P. Baxter \*W. A. L. Bazeley \*Charles S. Bird Ralph Bradley Mrs. George Bushee Aubrey B. Butler Stedman Buttrick Godfrey L. Cabot Thomas D. Cabot \*Henry M. Channing Miss Mabel Choate Miss Mabel Choate Arthur C. Comey Gregory P. Connolly, 2nd Mrs. Winthrop Crane, III Mrs. William Penn Cresson Mrs. F. W. R. Crosby Mrs. F. B. Crowninshield Dr. Lincoln Davis \*Walter Prichard Eaton \*Charles W. Eliot, 2nd Rev. Samuel A. Éliot \*William Ellery F. W. Elliott Raymond Emerson William Emerson Henry Endicott H. Wendell Endicott Roger Ernst John Wells Farley Henry H. Fay Laurence B. Fletcher Dr. Alexander Forbes Allan Forbes \*Edward W. Forbes \*Charles H. W. Foster Francis E. Frothingham Mrs. Louis A. Frothingham Miss Helen C. Gilbert Mrs. Frederick H. Gillett Dr. Joel E. Goldthwait \*William Roger Greeley Mrs. Henry V. Greenough Augustus Hemenway Christian A. Herter

Mrs. John W. Higgins Bernhard Hoffmann Francis C. Holmes Clement S. Houghton Irving A. Isaacs Harlan P. Kelsey Russell H. Kettell Dr. Stanley King Clarence H. Knowlton George Lewis, Jr. \*Augustus P. Loring, Jr. Arthur T. Lyman Henry H. Meyer Lawrence K. Miller D. P. Morgan Mrs. Miles Morgan Paul B. Morgan \*Frederick Law Olmsted Richard C. Paine Robert Treat Paine Mrs. F. Gordon Patterson Miss Amelia Peabody Dudley L. Pickman Charles S. Pierce Roger Pierce Thomas Emerson Proctor, 2nd A. D. Robinson Richard Saltonstall Mrs. R. M. Saltonstall Philip P. Sharples Dr. George C. Shattuck Henry L. Shattuck Arthur A. Shurcliff Miss Olive Simes Mrs. Frank C. Smith, Jr. Mrs. Philip L. Spalding Stephen H. Spurr Fletcher Steele Mrs. Robert W. Stoddard Dr. Anson Phelps Stokes Frank Taylor Mrs. Ezra R. Thayer \*Robert Walcott Mrs. Charles W. Ward Henry E. Warren William P. Wharton Robert K. Wheeler \*Bradford Williams Cornelius A. Wood B. Loring Young

#### ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

January 26, 1949

The Fifty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Corporation was held at the Women's Republican Club, 46 Beacon Street, Boston, on January 26, 1949, at twelve noon, President Robert Walcott presiding.

Last year's activities were briefly reported much to the interest of all those present. Informing reports were given by the chairmen of several local committees: Dr. Joel E. Goldthwait, Rocky Woods, Medfield; Mrs. Charles W. Ward, Charles W. Ward Reservation, Andover; Mr. Wilfrid Wheeler, Lowell Holly Reservation, Mashpee and Sandwich; and Mr. S. Waldo Bailey, botanical warden at Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield, who came down especially from Pittsfield.

At the conclusion of the meeting of the corporation about 200 members and associates, including guests and delegates from affiliated societies, met for luncheon. Among those who sat at the head table were Commissioner of Conservation Arthur T. Lyman and Mr. Jesse H. Buffum, Columbia Broadcasting System Director of Agriculture for New England.

President Walcott presided. Chairman Charles S. Bird read a report of the Standing Committee for the year 1948 and in the absence of Mr. Fletcher Steele, Chairman of the Reservations Committee, Mr. William Roger Greeley, member of the Standing Committee, read his report.

President Walcott presented the Annual Award for Distinguished Service for Conservation to Mr. Laurence Brown Fletcher, Secretary of The Trustees of Public Reservations.

The guest speaker was Mr. Edward A. Weeks, Jr., editor of the Atlantic Monthly, who gave an address on Conservation, which was met with much enthusiasm by the audience. At the conclusion especially attractive pictures of birds were shown contributed by the Fish and Wild Life Service and President Fairfield Osborn, of the New York Zoological Society.

#### ANNUAL LUNCHEON CONFERENCE

PRESIDENT WALCOTT: It is a pleasure to see so many friends of the Trustees here today with a howling snowstorm outside.

It speaks well for your interest in the work of the Trustees. It is always a pleasure to see so many familiar faces year after year.

(President Walcott then introduced Charles S. Bird, Chairman of the Standing Committee, to read his annual report on the Achievements of 1948 and Program for 1949.)

#### REPORT OF CHARLES S. BIRD

Chairman of the Standing Committee

At the time the Massachusetts Trustees of Public Reservations was founded, there was not much general interest in public parks.

With about half the population of today, there was no pressure for living space. People were busy making a living; woodlands seemed inexhaustible and the country distant, vast and inaccessible.

Even for our founders, it would have been difficult to foresee or ever imagine how quickly our timber would disappear; our land exhausted and with marvellously efficient and cheap mechanical transportation millions of people would be able, over cement and asphalt highways, to stream into the country on holidays and week ends for recreation and escape from the sordid ugliness of our unplanned industrial towns and "great and grim" cities which have grown wantonly and haphazardly.

Although there were many opportunities lost in the past by failure to plan for the needs and uses of open spaces, there are just as many today which we are in danger of losing. Massachusetts and New England would profit greatly if a comprehensive development plan coordinating all highways with plans for more beaches, public parks and forests was established and consistently followed with definite objectives for which to strive.

I believe that perhaps the greatest achievement of this Society, early organized in a comparative wilderness, is that its trustees in addition to the acquisition of a number of reservations, have effectively and continually helped through 57 years to till the larger fields of conservation and recreation. Our members and trustees were responsible for legislation that established the Department of Conservation and over many years have turned

over to the State many large areas for conservation and recreation not suited for our holdings which are confined only to places of natural beauty or historic interest.

As for our achievements for 1948, I am glad to report that we reached the goal set some years ago of adding annually three new reservations.

The first is the Mission House in Stockbridge. At the last meeting of the Association, this house, restored some years ago by Miss Mabel Choate as a memorial to her mother and famous father, Joseph Choate, was transferred to us. At the same time we received from Miss Choate a generous endowment of \$100,000. We appreciate the trust and our responsibilities as future guarddians of a splendid memorial and have appointed the same committee in Stockbridge that has maintained it in the past to represent us as our local committee. It is not only an historic house for which we are responsible but a unique museum filled with original furniture and many records of the Reverend John Sargeant who was the first missionary to the Indians in Stockbridge. Over many years Miss Choate and members of the Association have collected early relics including a Communion Service which was found in the possession of the Stockbridge tribe in Green Bay, Wisconsin who are direct descendants of the ancient tribe and the original Bible which was presented in 1739 by the Reverend Francis Ayscough, as he expressed it, to the missionary "in that vast wilderness called New England."

Our second addition is two acres of land at Rocky Woods in Medfield.

Our third, two and one-half acres at Whitney Woods in Cohasset.

In the absence of our Reservations Committee chairman, Mr. Fletcher Steele, Mr. Greeley will read his annual message but I wish to report that, visiting most of our reservations during the year with our Secretary, he has listed much work which should be done which demands time and money.

Although it is our policy to keep our reservations in as natural a state as possible, nevertheless, there is always forest weeding, brush cutting and clearing of paths to do. We hope that with the help of members and our local committees we shall be able to carry out his recommendations.

As complete reports of the work of our local committees will be printed, I shall mention only two outstanding improvements.

The first is the building of a bathhouse and new garage at the Richard T. Crane, Jr., Memorial Beach.

In spite of ourselves, this reservation is becoming an immensely popular recreation ground. It was visited last year by over 200,-000 people and 50,000 cars used our new parking space. You may realize from these numbers how many problems our local committee is called upon to solve.

The second is the completion of extensive repairs at the Old Manse, visited this year by 8000 people, the cost of which was met by public subscription. In the work of reconstruction, some interesting letters were found stuffed between floor boards of which one written by Ralph Waldo Emerson at the age of twelve to his aunt is now on loan to the Houghton Library at Harvard.

We received as gifts, in addition to a general donation from Cornelius Crane, a jeep fully equipped with fire apparatus for the beach at Ipswich and a large motor boat for use at Misery Island.

From Dr. Goldthwait, a motor vehicle for the use of visitors who may wish to be driven through Rocky Woods at a small charge.

On behalf of the Standing Committee, I thank them both for their continuing generosity.

Mr. Fletcher, our Secretary, has had an unusually busy year. I am happy to announce that largely through his efforts we have the gratifying increase of 295 new members and 7 affiliated societies for we receive no Government or State subsidy and must depend solely upon gifts and dues from members to carry on our work. Mr. Fletcher has told our story and explained our aims on numerous occasions throughout the State, through the Trustees' lecture, "Saving Beauty Spots From Cape Cod to the Berkshires."

He conducted our usual spring and autumn field trips enabling a large number of our members and friends to visit our reservations and see what we are doing.

By invitation from the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings, we were asked to attend a meeting called this year to establish the American National Trust with the same objectives as those of the National Trust of England which the Massachusetts Trustees of Public Reservations helped start in 1893. Our Secretary was sent to Washington to show our films at the National Gallery of Art and tell of our work in Massachusetts to encourage this new National Trust to adopt a policy of not only trying to save historic places to recall brave deeds of patriots and inspire new generations to emulate them but of being active as well in preserving as many places of natural beauty as possible throughout the country.

Though there is more widespread appreciation by people of natural beauty than ever before, still destruction goes on apace

and a new menace has raised its head.

Pressed to find sites, government officials look with covetous eyes on public parks and parkways as wonderful opportunities for new public buildings. Why not? One building could do no harm. Once started the pressure for new sites will continually increase and many of our fine public parks and parkways might be spoiled.

To help prevent this happening, we initiated an act which was passed and signed by the Governor this year, "restricting the taking by eminent domain ancient land marks and property of historical or antiquarian interest." This is a definite step in the right direction for it will be necessary in the future for legislative action before there can be any public land taken for building sites.

In cooperation with the Boston Society of Landscape Architects and the Cambridge Planning Board, we helped prevent the taking of the Charles River Embankment as a site for a Quartermasters Research Laboratory by showing government officials other equally suitable sites.

Again we are cooperating with the Storrow Memorial Embankment Protective Association to prevent temporarily the taking of the parkway along the Charles River Basin in Boston for a new highway to which we are opposed, taking the stand that much traffic should be diverted around the city and that underpasses at much less expense would relieve the congestion which is only serious at certain times of day.

With our approval, Mr. Fletcher accepted the chairmanship of the Blue Star Memorial Highway Committee which aims to make a living tribute to the Nation's armed forces by planting along roadsides from the Atlantic to the Pacific flowering trees and shrubs given by garden clubs.

It is difficult for those not actively engaged in the work to realize the amount of time which our Secretary, members of our Reservations Committee and the Standing Committee must spend in the discussion of legal and other diversive problems in the transfer of property. We want all members and friends to be alert and notify us of desirable opportunities for saving places of natural beauty though it must always be stressed to would-be donors that any gift of property must be accompanied by an adequate endowment for its maintenance so that no one can be disappointed if, without such support, we are unable to accept a gift no matter how much we should like to.

Our program for the coming year will be no different from those of the past. From the list of places we have visited and passed as suitable reservations there are three that we consider very important acquisitions on which we hope to make some progress this year.

As our endowment is totally inadequate for our needs, we shall urge our Finance Committee to start a campaign for funds but, under any circumstances, we shall not only have to find from friends and members the money necessary to pay our overhead but to meet a deficit which we were forced to run during last year's operations.

An introduction by Professor Trevelyan to a report of the National Trust of England entitled "Britain's Heritage" outlines the objectives of the National Trust of England and our own so well that I could do no better than to read it. However, this must be left to you to do but I shall quote one passage which not only applies to England and Massachusetts but to every Community in every State.

"The need to preserve beauty is not merely a question of preserving holiday grounds. It is a matter of preserving the main source of spiritual well being and inspiration on which our ancestors throve and which we are in danger of losing forever. We are 'children of the earth' and removed from her, our spirit withers or runs to various forms of insanity. Unless we can refresh ourselves at least by intermittent contact with nature, we grow awry.

"Therefore, unless man now will be at pains to make rules for the preservation of natural beauty, unless he consciously protects it at the partial expense of some of his other greedy activities, he will cut off his own spiritual supplies and leave his descendants a helpless prey forever to base materialism of mean and vulgar sights.

"Unless the State reverses the engines and instead of speeding up destruction, plans for the development of the Country so that the minimum of harm can be done to beauty, the future of our race, whatever its social, economic and political structure may be, will be brutish and shorn of spiritual value."

It was fortunate that the National Trust of England was organized for, due to the social revolution and confiscatory taxation, many of the historic houses and estates have been put on the market by owners whose families cared for them for many, many generations and the National Trust has been able to take over, with endowments, a good many, thus saving some of the heritage of England.

Though we in Massachusetts have no such opportunities yet, we have an important work of salvage to do if we are to save our New England heritage.

### REPORT OF THE RESERVATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1948

President Walcott: Fletcher Steele has prepared a report but perhaps you know he has gone to Haiti, and so William Roger Greeley will read Mr. Steele's report.

Mr. Greeley: I am asked to read the report of the committee of which Mr. Steele is chairman.

You have braved this blinding snowstorm and the blustering winds of winter to come here and hear his words, but 'poor' Fletcher Steele is unable to be here to enjoy our meeting. Unfortunately, he has been called away and is, at this present moment, stretched out languidly in a deck chair on a luxurious

ocean liner, smoking a cigar which he purchased this morning in Havana, and following with his not too unappreciative eye the graceful movements of sundry mermaids sunning themselves on the coral strand as he glides lazily along through the mild waters of the Caribbean, bathed in warm sunshine and soothed by tropical breezes. Mr. Steele bade me convey to you his inexpressible regret at not being able to be here in Boston with you today to read the following report:

Trees do not seem to mind the higher cost of living. They keep on growing about the same and do not wilt over the fact that money will not go so far as it did when The Trustees of Public Reservations was first conceived.

Perhaps trees are smart to let us do the worrying. They are our pets and it is we who want them to be fed and groomed suitably. We like them all, though we have our favorites. The older and bigger they get, the better we like them. The idea of selling old trees for money to make room for the young, as proper conservationists would like, is abhorrent to the Trustees. We do not want to kill our pets. They are handsome and we keep what is beautiful. We have faith that the future will turn out best if eternally linked with the past by the chain of ancient promises fulfilled, some of which we are guarding on our reservations. We are not satisfied with those whose "jam" always comes tomorrow. We like a bit of "jam" today. We try to hold fast that which is good.

This does not mean that we are mossback reactionaries who rest content with Nature's balance. Not so. We know well enough that Nature is continually fouling her own nest. She nurses a tree to grand old age, then bedraggles it with worms, breaks its bones with ice storms, and takes a fling at it with a hurricane. We deprecate such misconduct and do all we can to stop it. When we cannot prevent it, we try to revive and assuage the victims. We trim and mend the breaks and remove the outrageous debris which Nature keeps piling up in our way. We try to keep our reservations more decent and orderly than Nature would let them be.

All this takes human brains and work. And since not enough people offer to do the work for nothing, we have to pay for it. But, alas, we have no money. Our trees are not fed and groomed as we would like. Fallen, broken wood is left to rot and harbor enemies of the living as well as to encourage fire. Wounds are not tended. Upstart vegetation is not cleared and begins, in some places, to conceal the very beauty which the reservations were taken to preserve.

Would that all our friends could go to the reservations just to see the troubles that Nature has brought us! They need not go far to find them. When they learn firsthand what we are up against, we feel sure they will want to do what they can, by work or by money, to help us mend and clean up what they do not like.

Badly as we need money to keep things decent, we are unalterably opposed to the tricks which make money on our reservations. We could easily profit by selling gasoline, peanuts, and popcorn. That would take very little room on our broad acres and would very likely bring in enough cash to take care of all the rest. Nevertheless, we regard such temptation as coming from the devil. We must keep our reservations quiet, peaceful and remote from the things of this world. Regardless of the good that can be told of gasoline and ice cream, they do not tend to keep the countryside peaceful and remote. On the contrary, they bring in their train the type of followers who would not help us preserve beauty. We want people to abandon peanuts and cigarettes when they enter our woods. Our reservations are not public parks whose aim is to be a suitable setting for public recreation. They are to preserve natural beauty and historic sites. They furnish real satisfaction to people who accept that purpose and respect it. The last time I was at the Old Manse a party of people arrived who kept a portable radio playing jazz all the time they wandered round. I would gladly have given money from our meagre funds to get them off to Revere Beach where they belonged.

This determination to guard the virginity of our reservations is not easy for everybody to understand. There is constant pressure urging us to provide amenities. Tables and fireplaces for family picnics appear harmless. In many places they have been provided, along with other features offering wholesome recreation, such as bathhouses, ski trails, and skating huts. In the opinion of this committee, such features are an opening wedge which, if pushed too far, will turn our reservations into public

recreation grounds. Virgin quiet, peace and remoteness will be killed. We do not like that prospect.

At times pressure to furnish these alien comforts has come from members of our local committees, who believe them not only harmless but desirable. Moreover, they are faced with the difficulties of maintaining the reservations without adequate funds, which concessions would bring in. Their attitude is easy to understand if they are not fully conversant with the policy of the Trustees and sympathetic to it.

This introduces the problem of appropriate interrelation of the Trustees, their Standing Committee and the local committees. At these annual meetings, through printed matter, and by visiting the reservations to see for themselves, the Trustees are kept informed of the performance of the Standing and local committees. The minutes of the meetings of the Standing Committee are open for their inspection and they lose a lot of chuckles and perhaps frowns if they fail to read them. More thorough knowledge of details on the part of the Trustees would be a valuable asset to the work. Possibly some arrangement could be worked out whereby Trustees would serve as members of the local committees in their districts. In this way they would learn how the work is going and their comments would be most helpful to the Standing Committee.

Relations between the Standing Committee and the local committees have always been cordial and cooperative. Ways and means of increasing mutual understanding are kept constantly in mind. It is the purpose of the Standing Committee to give all expedient latitude and authority to local committees in the administration of the reservation in their charge. Only by so doing can it stimulate the necessary sense of local responsibility. Nevertheless, it is the duty of the Standing Committee to scrutinize and direct what is locally undertaken in order to see that the policies of the Trustees are observed.

The Standing Committee is fully informed about local affairs by its Executive Secretary, Laurence B. Fletcher, who has acted as an indefatigable liason officer. Mr. Fletcher assiduously makes the rounds of the reservations and is in immediate touch with all that happens. He is alert to the needs of each place and keeps everybody informed—not to say goaded—about what

should be done. He tells the Standing Committee of all the local proposals with sympathetic enthusiasm, always with encouragement for anyone who gets things done. And when the Standing Committee decides on a policy to determine local activities or perhaps cannot accede to some local committee proposal, Mr. Fletcher returns to them to explain the whys and wherefore with engaging conciliation. Many a time when the local committee has not been able to attend to such matters as clearing brush from the trails or cutting trees which have grown up to hide the view, he, himself, has gone to work with an axe and by his own labor has put things to rights.

Occasionally, some local representative comes to the Standing Committee to clarify some reservation matter. But that happens seldom—all too seldom—for it is well nigh impossible for a person at a distance who has no means of learning about the organization or of imbibing the ideals for which it stands, to grasp the whole intent of our society. Only personal contact with

headquarters can accomplish this.

To promote this interchange, we have invited the chairman of each local committee to be present at this Annual Meeting and Luncheon. We hope they will gain understanding that our sterling, friendly qualities are but an extension of their own. We are all part of one another with identical aims, both in Boston and in the field, to preserve beautiful natural and historic sites in Massachusetts.

> Respectfully submitted, FLETCHER STEELE, Chairman WILLIAM ROGER GREELEY AMELIA PEABODY LAURENCE B. FLETCHER, ex officio

PRESIDENT WALCOTT: The reports of the chairmen of the Standing Committee and the Reservations Committee today as in past years give an undertone of praise to the gentleman of

whom I am going to speak.

I think you might be interested to know how he first became connected with this organization. My recollection is that twenty-one years ago he had the energy to get one of the great governors of Massachusetts, Mr. Alvan T. Fuller, to appoint a Committee on Needs and Uses of Open Spaces, and then very skillfully picked the organizations, in some cases designating the agent whom he would like to have serve. On it were represented the Department of Conservation, this organization, the Appalachian Mountain Club, Boston Society of Architects, Department of Public Welfare, Massachusetts Audubon Society, New England Council, etc., etc., etc. That committee chose as its chairman, Mr. Charles S. Bird, and as its secretary, Mr. Laurence B. Fletcher. It did, I think, a very valuable work.

It corresponded with all the cities and towns in the state and asked the prominent men there what they thought were the particular objects of interest, historically or artistically, that were in that neighborhood. It tabulated them all and made a map showing all the places which existed.

At about that time we needed a chairman of the Standing Committee of this organization to succeed Mr. Charles Rackemann and Mr. Bird was elected to that position. Then Mr. Charles Eliot, II was transferred to Washington and we needed a new secretary and we took over the secretary of that Governor's Committee. The chairman and secretary immediately became busy in making this organization much better known than it had ever been known before.

At that time, twenty-one years ago, there was no reservation west of the Connecticut Valley except Petticoat Hill in Williamsburg. We were practically unknown in the western part of the state. There were very few reservations of any sort.

Mr. Fletcher has a natural flair for newspapers. As you know, he gets along well with everybody. He likes people and people like him and we began to be known all through the state. He is an excellent photographer and a past master of diction and his lectures on Massachusetts from Coast to Coast, telling of the beauty spots of the state, are much appreciated. By these personally-conducted automobile trips to attractive waterfalls, historic houses and lovely gardens, a great many people became familiar with the beauties of the state who previously had no knowledge of them at all. Knowledge that perhaps there were a dozen waterfalls west of the Connecticut as beautiful as any in the Adirondacks was almost unknown to us.

Another thing that took place was that Mr. Bird and Mr. Fletcher established a joint office and you have no idea of the number of suggestions for holdings for the public benefit that are

sifted in that Congress Street office at the present time. It is a very helpful thing to have headquarters where anybody desiring to give money for purposes covered by our charter might talk them out with our secretary, and perhaps later with members of our Committee on Reservations and Standing Committee.

All of which, summed up, means that through this organization, as well as numerous other ones he has belonged to we think a very great service to Conservation has been done by Laurence Brown Fletcher. Knowing that you all heartily agree, it is a very great pleasure to the Committee to present him with the Conservation Award.

(The guests rose with long applause.)

MR. FLETCHER: (To the audience) You are very kind. I am under the impression that even a judge can exaggerate a little at times if he is fond of you.

Mr. President, members of the Standing Committee, members of the Trustees, whatever I may have done to assist the Standing Committee in carrying out the work of this organization and its charter has been nothing but great fun.

Mr. President, I appreciate very much the honor of receiving this award, but, after all, the real satisfaction comes to me from seeing the Trustees grow in membership from 80 to well over 1800 and to have been able to secure 122 affiliated societies through the Trustees' lecture—garden clubs, historical societies, and others who, in the words of Thoreau, are "using eternal vigilance to see that the beauty of their town receive no detriment." I can assure you they have been exceedingly helpful in calling my attention to places that needed saving, which I presented to the Standing Committee, and in some cases we have been successful.

It has been a joy to help the Standing Committee secure some of the forty-three reservations that this organization has acquired in its life of fifty-eight years, eighteen of which have been turned over to other agencies principally as state parks, now under our distinguished guest, the Commissioner of Conservation Arthur T. Lyman. This is the real satisfaction.

I can assure you that without your generous cooperation this could not have been done.

Mr. President, this is a very pleasant and happy occasion for me. Thank you all very much. Long live The Trustees of Public Reservations!



ATTIC ROOM FOR WEAVING, SHOWING LOOM AND REELS AT MISSION HOUSE.

#### **ADDRESS**

BY MR. EDWARD A. WEEKS, JR. EDITOR OF THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY

at the

Annual Luncheon Meeting of the Trustees of Public Reservations

on

Wednesday, January 26, 1949

PRESIDENT WALCOTT: One of the duties of the Trustees is to make influential friends and what more could we make than the editor of the Atlantic Monthly, Mr. Edward A. Weeks, Jr.

(Applause)

MR. Weeks: Mr. Walcott, Mr. Fletcher, Trustees all, I am very pleased to have the opportunity of meeting you, of hearing your affiliated strength, and of being told of your new acquisition and trust. The last speaker has reminded us of the eternal vigilance required of people in your position. Since last September I have flown some twenty thousand miles in this country. Everywhere that I have had the opportunity of speaking I have been kindled to talk on the subject of Conservation, Conservation in the broadest sense as I have come to know it as a boy of suburbia, then as assistant editor and now as an editor-in-chief.

I am going to tell you, if I may, about this rising wave of interest in Conservation which I find from coast to coast. Innate in all of us is a protective love of this country—a wish that we might have seen it as Audubon did—where the trees were deep in the forests and the birds were in the trees, and with that wish goes the indignant and vigilant desire to see that the country be not

abused in a time of great crisis.

Everyone knows that we drew immeasurably on our national resources to win the war. Everyone does not know, however, how far we have gone to modify or control the using of what can't be replaced. My interest in this subject goes back to my native state which is called "New Joisey" by those that live there. In my part of northern "New Joisey" the wave of sub-

urbia was already mercilessly rolling over the little self-contained community in which I was born.

As a boy I saw the back lots being curbed, the streets widened and the trees coming down. Apartment houses were moving in. The landmarks of our colonial past were going. The Carteret Arms, for example, was a lovely old combination of rose brick and clapboards but it was fighting a losing battle with a restaurant. During my high school days it was torn down and replaced by a fire station. The lovely Presbyterian church with its white spire which you noticed as you passed on your way to Philadelphia and which was the place of origin of Princeton, has burned down. Today of those few landmarks only the Kean estate, "Liberty Hall," survives. The Elizabeth River was once deep enough to float ships. But in my youth it was so full of bed springs, dead cats and the skeletons of Model T's, it was finally piped into a culvert and covered. Lafavette was once supposed to have danced the minuet on the lawn sloping toward the river. But it's no place to dance today.

My interest in this whole subject of Conservation was aroused in New England. While I was in New Jersey I heard noises off stage about reforestation and erosion protests from Teddy Roosevelt and Pinchot but it meant nothing to me. There were no forests in my part of New Jersey and there was no erosion on North Broad Street. What happened in my backyard never seemed a part of what they were talking about.

Today, we know that it is. We know that the bulldozing of community life is the inescapable cost of progress and that you can't very well delay it. You can control it if you are diligent. Cleveland and Pasadena control it, if not Boston. My interest in Conservation here was first aroused when I was taken to fish for stripers in 1938 and 1937 in the North River south of Boston. The striped bass had come back after an absence of five decades, and the reason they had come back was that the river was running fresh and clean. Factories which had once contaminated the stream went broke in the Depression and the fish got a telegram. With Leslie Thompson and Dick Fuller I had three heavenly days fishing for stripers, finding them by the submerged rocks not far from where Stuart Rand's cottage is, six miles upstream.

Since then I have become more and more of a fisherman, and, as everybody knows, if you are a fisherman or have one in the family, you have a love for trees and birds; the kingfisher and the jay, and in the north country, the eagle. I have never been so scared in my life as in the Miramichi when an eagle which I thought was part of a rock, suddenly flew up, after having watched my futile casts in motionless patience.

Two summers ago on the Miramichi we noticed that all the white birch were dying from the top down and last summer they had all gone, the white slender candelabra which are so lovely against the conifers. This rust borer has swept across New Brunswick and down into Maine, and coming up to meet it is the Dutch Elm disease. I think we have all begun to worry about the beetle which spreads the Dutch Elm disease. A great elm city such as New Haven with 6000 elms within its confines, has lost 1500 on Whitney Avenue and around the college, and the loss goes on.

Ask yourself what this will mean to New England if it continues unchecked. What will it mean to Chestnut Street, Salem and Rowley Green and to Main Street in Williamstown? I think I can cite Williamstown as the most vigilant of any of our New England communities in fighting the Dutch Elm beetle. They suspended college and schools and sent students to all house-holders to ask if there were any dead elm in the wood sheds, and if so, to burn it. They pruned all the dead limbs. They brought their loss from 69 in three months down to two. D.D.T. and vigilance and more men than you will ever be able to find is about the only answer we have got.

Why do we deserve this? Of course it is the result of the war, of not having either men or money enough to preserve the community interest in its shade trees and so trouble gets started, and once started look out! We add to them; we don't subtract from them.

Last summer I flew over the burned area of Mt. Desert and Bar Harbor in one of those very small airplanes of aluminum and plexiglass and as we were going over the fire-swept brown slopes I kept asking myself, "Was there anything they could have done that they didn't do? What about that dump? Could they have been more cautious about the hot dump in the middle of a drought? What other communities have dumps that ought to be watched?" This is so easy to be casual about.

This fall I passed along the Missouri River Valley in that beautiful long sweep going up to Sioux City. There, after the season was over, I saw more wild fowl than I have ever seen collected in my life. The mallard, teal and geese were coming in like everlasting flights of B-17s, to reach the water at the lip of the stream and pick up scraps of left-over harvest. More ducks than I have ever seen or imagined—and this is largely a tribute to Ducks Unlimited and the government, and a partial tribute to the fact that while men were away at war, wildlife increased. There was not the ammunition nor the men to use it. Now the men are back and the shooting recommences.

Olympia National Park has been cut down by the inroads of lumber and cattle. There you have one of the few remaining superb herds of elk. Last summer a hunter was going after them with a machine gun. How long do you suppose they will last under such circumstances?

I am glad to report that wherever I go I find this consolidation of effort, this affiliation you have reported on today, this gathering together of small groups to form a group large enough to muster public opinion. It has to go along. You find it in the wealthiest part of the farming area, Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana, where they are working like beavers to educate and to eradicate the stupid farming which has gone so far to reduce our total area of arable soil.

We have had trees to burn and we have burned them. In 1871 there was a forest fire in Wisconsin which blotted out an area the size of Delaware and ten years later there was a fire in Michigan which wiped out an area the size of Long Island. In both events the pillars of clouds drifting east covered the eastern states—a reminder of how fast you can go in spending what you have got. In this country, with the war over we are still cutting trees twice as fast as we are planting them. How much longer can it go on?

We do need large organizations; we need the banding together of those who have Conservation passionately at heart. We have lived too long by that ancient slogan brought home by William Vogt in his book "Road to Survival" and by Fairfield Osborn in "Our Plundered Planet"—the slogan which made deserts in Egypt—cut, burn, plant, destroy and move on. Now it is time

to try to get some of these submarginal lands back into fertility. There are whole areas of them in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan where men are chained to submarginal farms. They can't escape and they can't make a living.

I like the one-man crusade Louis Bromfield is carrying out in his talks. Now at last we begin to understand the delicate balance between the trees which retain the surface water, and the water so badly needed by our arable soil. The truth brought home by William Vogt and Fairfield Osborn is that today Russia and the United States find themselves with proportionately the same amount of arable soil per acre per person, and it is a test of a free society whether we by voluntary measures or Russia by hers can save and develop arable acres. Believe me, Russia is worried about this quite as much as we are.

Are you happy about what you see? In the Santa Clara Valley today, once one of the most fertile valleys in California, you would not be particularly happy. In Baltimore you might be troubled by the falling water table. If you are a Philadelphian by birth, how could you possibly be happy about the Schuylkill River which looks as though it was composed of quink and cinders. How could you possibly be happy about the desecration of the streets in the Quaker City—the streets you can hardly move through today? Look about you.

I ask each one of you as you go out to look at the ice. (Don't fall down. One of the persons coming into this meeting sprained her ankle.) Also look across the street. This town of Boston has retained more of its physical beauty than any other city of age in America. But there are times when I wish that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts would join hands with the City of Boston in preserving that national monument which consists of Beacon Street, the Common, and Beacon Hill. For I despair of any interest in the City Government to protect the very character of this place.

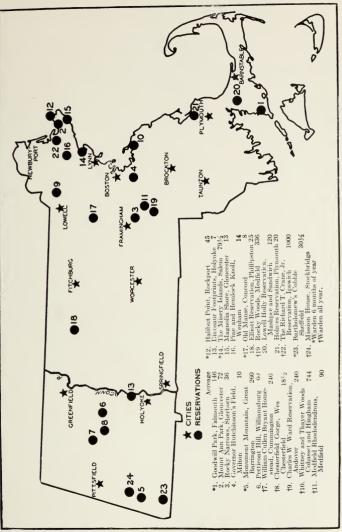
Consider the plan which would project a garage underneath the Common. When we get through with this wretched project, we shall have denuded the Common of many of its finest elms for no tree roots in the lower Common can survive the tunneling; we shall have bottled up by day several thousand cars from the suburbs, not in the outskirts of the city where they belong, and where they are content to park today. No, we shall insist on storing them in the very center of town, and then at going-home time from four to six in the afternoon, we shall spew them forth at the Park Square entrance and at the corner of Charles and Beacon in a congestion that will make today's traffic look like a picnic. The only way to relieve that congestion will be to widen the streets.

Give me one honest reason why Boston must attract these several thousand motorists from the suburbs? Why must we throw away an irreplaceable part of Boston character, a park celebrated as no other park in American history, for the sake of people who don't vote, pay taxes, or live in the city? If shopping is the incentive, they can well afford to use the MTA.

But no, the good trees will come down, the cars pile up, the streets—Beacon and Charles—will be widened, the sturdy, century-old brick houses will come down or be defaced—all as the result of a weird, wrong-headed scheme. The tragedy of disappearing America is that we who love the place never raise our voices until it's gone. (Applause)

## PROPERTIES OWNED AND MAINTAINED BY THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS PRESENTED OR PURCHASED

x ear acquired		
1935	Bancroft Sanctuary, (Part of Whitney Woods)	25
*1946	Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield	30
1928	William Cullen Bryant Homestead, Cummingto	n 240
*1929	Chesterfield Gorge, West Chesterfield	13
**1947	Chesterfield Gorge, West Chesterfield	51
1945	Richard T. Crane, Jr. Memorial Reservation,	,
	Ipswich	1,000
*1935	Dinosaur Footprints, Holyoke	7
1942	Elliott Reservation, Phillipston	25
1894	Goodwill Park, Falmouth	146
†1934	Halibut Point, Rockport	40
1943	Halibut Point, Rockport	5
1944	Holmes Reservation, Plymouth	20
1898	Governor Hutchinson's Field, Milton	10
1942	Lowell Holly Reservation, Mashpee & Sandwich	120
1936	Magnolia Shore, Magnolia	13
1934	Medfield Rhododendrons, Medfield	90
1935	Misery Island, Salem	791
1948	Mission House, Stockbridge	
1899	Monument Mountain, Great Barrington 8	k
	Stockbridge	260
1897	Mount Ann Park, Gloucester	72
*1939	Old Manse, Concord	81
1906	Petticoat Hill, Williamsburg	60
1936	Pine and Hemlock Knoll, Wenham	14
1937	Rocky Narrows, Sherborn	21
1941	Rocky Narrows, Sherborn	15
1942	Rocky Woods, Medfield	303
1946	Rocky Woods, Medfield	31
1948	Rocky Woods, Medfield	2
1936	Charles W. Ward Reservation, Andover .	150
1944	Charles W. Ward Reservation, Andover .	36
1945	Charles W. Ward Reservation, Andover .	60
1933	Whitney Woods, Cohasset & Hingham	600
1943	Whitney Woods, Cohasset & Hingham .	28
*1944	Whitney Woods, Cohasset & Hingham .	60
*1947	Whitney Woods, Cohasset & Hingham .	53
*1948	Whitney Woods, Cohasset & Hingham .	3
*Purcha	ased. †25 acres purchased. ased (part payment made).	



Properties Owned and Privately Administered by The Trustees of Public Reservations 1891-1948 ALL OUR RESERVATIONS ARE BIRD SANCTUARIES

#### BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE SHEFFIELD

(Off route No. 7. Look for large swinging sign corner route No. 7 and Ashley Falls road.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Prof. Walter Prichard Eaton, Chairman

Miss F. C. Andrus Mrs. Taylor Day

Edward F. Belches Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller

Mrs. William A. Berridge Charles A. Weatherby

Robert K. Wheeler

Viewed from many standpoints, the season of 1948 at the Cobble was an excellent one. Nature was especially bountiful for, although many of the rock-loving ferns suffered considerably from the prolonged drouth of the autumn season of 1947 and, in consequence, survived the winter in poor shape, the frequent rains of May and June soon restored them to their usual lush condition.

Other flora was especially fine, also. The aquilegia, which is in bloom during late May and early June, was far more profuse than for many years, if ever. In late June the various hawkweeds were more than usually luxuriant, their colorful displays of gold and orange giving pleasure to all visitors of that period.

More than fifty new species of growing things were identified and catalogued, which brings the total now to over 500, and a beginning made in the study and identification of the many species of mosses and lichens.

The high point botanically, probably, was the rediscovery of that rare hybrid fern, Scott's spleenwort, after a lapse of more than forty years. For a more extended account of this, I would refer you to an article by Mr. Charles A. Weatherby, of the Gray Herbarium, Harvard University, Cambridge, which appears in the March, 1949, issue of Horticulture.

One of the several needs of the Cobble is greater publicity. Locally it has been long known to a few appreciative people, and botanists from greater distances have visited it from time to time. Still more recently, garden clubs have been interested in the

Cobble and have contributed generously towards its purchase. Incidentally, it would seem as though, to a degree at least, these organizations which have so generously contributed are still morally responsible for its future.

Friends have been exceedingly kind in helping the Trustees secure funds for the maintenance of the Cobble with a botanical warden for six months in the year. Mrs. William A. Berridge arranged for a tea for the benefit of the Cobble and the raffling of a piece of silver designed and wrought by Ruth Margaret Berridge with verses by Elise Eaton, which produced over \$100.

Due to unusually wet conditions during May and June, the number of visitors was not so great as in the similar period in 1947. Not a few organizations having plans for a field day at the Cobble during these months were disappointed in the weather and had to postpone, or cancel altogether, their visits until another season. Among those who did come, however, was the Torrey Botanical Society under the leadership of Mr. Rutherford Platt. This is the oldest botanical society in the country and is internationally known.

Regarding physical condition, through the generosity of Mrs. Charles A. Weatherby a small cabin on the premises has been converted into rest rooms. A new roof was placed on the warden's cabin late last autumn, insuring a dry interior for some years to come. The fireplaces for picnickers who desire such are adequate for the present. Under consideration for the continuance of the stone wall at the entrance to the grounds is the utilization of the remnants of an old stone wall within the area, the same to be moved and rebuilt along the road frontage.

As public interest in Nature grows and conservation of natural beauty and basic resources comes more into its own, there is every reason to believe that the unique beauty and appeal of the Cobble will give pleasure and inculcate a greater appreciation of the aesthetic and useful in Nature.

It is sincerely hoped that the folder compiled by Secretary Fletcher showing enlarged pictures of the Cobble and especially of the rare Scott spleenwort will meet with interest and bring in subscriptions from those who are interested in the preservation for the public of this unique and remarkable natural rock garden.

# WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT HOMESTEAD CUMMINGTON

(Top of Cummington Hill off route No. 9)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Conrad G. Goddard, Chairman

Laurence B. Fletcher, ex officio

Leslie Porter

Horace M. Robbins

This year there were 126 visitors registered at the Homestead.

Electricity was installed on all floors so as to eliminate the danger of kerosene lamps. The work was done very carefully so that the atmosphere of the old house would not be spoiled, there being no fixtures in the rooms shown to the public.

About a quarter of the roof is being reshingled with asphalttype shingles, selected with regard to color and texture to blend with the rest of the wooden shingles. This will eventually be done over the whole house, thereby eliminating the danger of chimney fires.

One of the two roads leading to the Homestead has been completely blocked all summer due to the falling down of a bridge in the spring. It is expected that it will be replaced sometime this winter.

After seventeen years as caretaker, Richard M. Page retired and has been replaced by Horace M. Robbins, a veteran from Cummington, whose wife's mother was born in the Homestead before the Trustees took over.

Two interesting letters from Mr. Bryant were presented to the Trustees by President Walcott, which have been mounted and are now being specially displayed.

# THE RICHARD T. CRANE, JR. MEMORIAL RESERVATION IPSWICH

(End of Argilla Road from Ipswich Common)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Robert T. Bamford, Chairman

M. Charles Arthur

Mrs. Harry S. Merson

Mrs. Theodore J. Ciolek, Fiscal Agent

Jerome Richardson

Laurence B. Fletcher, ex officio George E. Hodgkins A. W. Smith Wendell Taber

Lothrop Withington

The season of 1948 was the most successful one at Crane's Beach, Ipswich. Again there were over 200,000 visitors in 50,000 cars who enjoyed one of the most beautiful beaches on the Atlantic seaboard under the supervision of our competent manager, Charles S. Garrett, and his efficient staff of some ten wardens who arrange parking, manage the store, where they sell tonic and sandwiches, take charge of picking up litter on the beach, and supervise the beach generally.

It has been the purpose of the competent Local Committee, who are representing the Standing Committee of The Trustees of Public Reservations, who own the beach, to allow no misdemeanors and have no concessions, except the convenient store and the renting of umbrellas. Lifeguards are in attendance every day, and the beach is under the strict supervision of the Town of Ipswich police and our wardens, who insist upon order. It is interesting to note that only one man was removed from the beach out of all the people who visited it. The beach is intended for family groups, who have confidence that the beach will be managed strictly for their convenience and pleasure, and they can be assured that no misdemeanors will be tolerated.

The money received from parking charges and other income was used to pay the expenses of running the beach besides the building of a ladies' rest room with dressing rooms, shower baths, and flush toilets, with a woman in attendance, and a garage to house a jeep given by Cornelius Crane, fully equipped with all modern

fire equipment and an inhalator in case of near-drowning, and having a trained nurse in attendance for first aid treatment. This amounted to \$4000 more than the income, which was taken from the Reserve Fund.

It is planned this year to erect a men's rest room with the same equipment as the women's for the convenience of the public, which will also come from the results of the parking charges. Town water will be installed for both the ladies' and the men's rest rooms to give an adequate water supply.

Both the Local and the Standing Committees have received much appreciation from those who visited the beach with their families for the way in which the beach is managed and for the special care taken for their children's welfare, over whom the lifeguards keep a careful watch.

#### DINOSAUR FOOTPRINTS HOLYOKE

(Route No. 5 halfway between Holyoke and Northampton)
In status quo

### ELLIOTT LAUREL RESERVATION PHILLIPSTON

(Look for large swinging sign)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

John M. Woolsey, Chairman

F. W. Elliott Mr. and Mrs. Donald Forbes Mr. and Mrs. John Fiske Miss Olive Simes

Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Tatlock

In status quo

#### GOODWILL PARK FALMOUTH

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Wilfrid Wheeler, Chairman

H. V. Lawrence, Falmouth Park Department In status quo

#### HALIBUT POINT ROCKPORT

(Route No. 127 junction Gott Lane. Look for large swinging sign.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

I. B. Witherby, Chairman

Aldro T. Hibbard

Addison B. LeBoutillier

#### H. Chester Story

The year 1948 was an outstanding one for the Halibut Point Reservation. There was an increased number of visitors, bird clubs, etc.

All paths were recut early and, in some cases, widened. Direction signs were added, which proved of much help.

Visitors started coming early in the season and by midsummer there were not only groups in the daytime but also many evening parties.

The flora, aided by the moist season, was more beautiful than ever, especially the numerous kinds of shrubs, wood lilies, asters, grasses, and later the beautiful bayberry, blackberry, etc.

The ever-present herring gulls, soaring gracefully, and the song sparrows with their charming notes were a continual delight.

The wonderful fall weather added another season bringing numerous bird enthusiasts who were rewarded with records of many winter ocean birds.

An occasional sea storm with wonderful surf brought out the camera group.

### HOLMES RESERVATION PLYMOUTH

(Court Street. Look for large swinging sign.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Francis C. Holmes, Chairman

Laurence B. Fletcher, ex officio

The reservation was used in the same way and kept in the same condition as in previous years.

A small part was cultivated; the rest is grassland. There is no change in appearance.

# GOVERNOR HUTCHINSON'S FIELD MILTON

(Adams Street. Look for large swinging sign.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Miss Helen C. Gilbert, Chairman

Dr. Alexander Forbes

Mrs. Edward P. Hamilton

Charles S. Pierce

The Dutch Elm disease, which began last year to infect the elms on this small but attractive reservation, continued to cause trouble during this year. Three good-sized elms had to be cut down, carted away, and thoroughly destroyed by burning in a pit used for that purpose by the town. Your local committee is planning to plant two beeches and a scarlet oak to fill the gaps left by these removals. On the other hand we must voluntarily take out a few trees which are beginning to obstruct the lovely view from Milton Hill over the Neponset River and marshes.

It is always interesting to note the number of those persons, driving over the hill, who slow down or really stop, to enjoy this distant view over our beautiful field.

# LOWELL HOLLY RESERVATION MASHPEE

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Wilfrid Wheeler, Chairman

I. Louis Campbell

Located as it is in the most northern zone where the American Holly is native and having within its boundaries one of the best groups of this beautiful tree still surviving, the Lowell Woods are unique among all the Reservations. It is estimated that there are some three hundred hollies of substantial size, but owing to a thick growth of brush, briers and trees, it has been impossible to locate them all. In addition there are hundreds of seedlings.

This year a good deal of work has been done in clearing around some of the larger trees, and if it is continued, it will be possible before long to map the exact extent of the grove. Owing to the traditional use of holly at Christmas and its consequent market value, large areas in the middle south have been denuded of this once plentiful tree and even the hollies of the north have not escaped indiscriminate cutting. Thus the number of native hollies is fast growing smaller and it is indeed fortunate that those in the Lowell Woods have come within the protective care of the Trustees in time to save them.

This year the Trustees have approved a plan whereby a section of the Woods will be set aside to start a small Holly Arboretum, and in it the American Holly Society is particularly interested. This society has been organized to encourage the protection and increase of our native hollies, particularly the better strains and types that have been found by its members.

It was early discovered that there is a great difference between the trees, the reason being that all native trees are seedlings and holly does not come true from seed. All sorts of different strains and types have been selected, including numbers from southern Massachusetts and Cape Cod which are probably the hardiest of all northeastern hollies. Many have been named or numbered.

The American Holly Society has a large collection of them at the New Jersey Experiment Station in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Already some one hundred varieties have been planted there under good conditions where records can be kept of their values.

At the Lowell Reservation, ground has been prepared for planting in 1949 fifty hollies, mostly of the best selections from Cape Cod trees. Three of each variety will be grouped together—seventeen kinds in the first planting. The soil is ideal for the purpose, but in preparing for these new plants, oak leaf mould, native peat and manure are added to give the young plants a good start. Careful labeling will be done with aluminum tags. In addition a plan will be made so that any plant can be easily identified even if the label is lost. This is essential in the permanent evaluation of the varieties. The Lowell Reservation should become distinguished as a northern testing ground, for in the future, southern varieties will be planted for comparison.

This year there was one of the heaviest crops of berries on the old trees that has ever been noted here. Many branches were actually bent with their weight and no more beautiful picture could be imagined than these trees laden with bright red fruit against the snow.

Considerable pruning was done on some trees which had grown long awkward branches owing to dense shade. Careful pruning should be continued until the trees are brought to reasonably symmetrical shape, although it would be advisable to leave some trees in their natural condition just to see how they grow when heavily shaded.

Definite effort should be made to reduce the growth of cat brier and poison ivy, both of which are bad around the hollies. We hope to try out some of the weed control sprays the coming year.

Your committee is greatly encouraged with the outlook for the Lowell Reservation. It is the only land in the north which is held for the benefit of the public where the native Holly grows in abundance. It should become more and more important as time goes on as a refuge for our beautiful native American Holly.

#### MAGNOLIA SHORE MAGNOLIA

(Hesperus Avenue. Look for large swinging sign.)
LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

William H. Coolidge, Chairman

Harvey Bundy Laurence B. Fletcher, ex officio

Mrs. Coolidge and I went over the property last Saturday, and found it to be in surprisingly good condition. There were no papers or broken glass on the ground, and there seemed to be no work that called for immediate attention. The fence along the easterly border is in very bad shape, and I would suggest that the rails be taken down, possibly leaving the posts to mark the boundary line. It is probable that we could get the Boy Scouts or some other outfit to take these rails to use for firewood.

The wooded area is, of course, entirely uncared for, and there is quite a luxuriant growth of cat brier and some deadwood. It would be helpful if we could clean out some of this woodland.

The new sign on the street is in good condition.

# MEDFIELD RHODODENDRON RESERVATION MEDFIELD

(Route No. 27, a mile from Medfield Center. Look for painted direction signs on trees.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

John S. Ames, Chairman

Walter Channing

Mrs. Louis A. Frothingham

H. Wendell Endicott

Walter Hunnewell

Mrs. John Wells Farley

Mrs. Augustin Parker

Miss Sylvia Warren

During the past year, there was a small bloom on the rhododendrons. The plants at the end of the year looked in first-class condition and another scattered bloom can be expected for next season.

Repair work to the wooden walk that goes through the swamp around the Knoll was undertaken and partly completed. The wood for this repair work was provided by the trees cut in thinning. The road into the reservation has been repaired in places and the interfering brush cut from the sides of the road. White painted arrows on the trees provide directions.

# MISERY ISLAND RESERVATION SALEM HARBOR

(Off Manchester, Massachusetts. Read report for instructions on how to reach island.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

John M. Abbot, Chairman

Mrs. K. Schuyler Choate

Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby

Frederic C. Church

Neal Rantoul

Gregory P. Connolly, II

Mrs. Harold W. Wise

The report last year dwelt on the difficulty of properly administering the island without a serviceable motorboat, and a request was made to any and all members to get one. Fortunately, this

came to the attention of a gentleman who already, many times, has shown his interest in the work of the Trustees by giving them substantial donations. This time he has given us a practically new motorboat thirty-six feet long, which is exactly what we wanted. *Thank you Mr. Cornelius Crane*.

As the income from our endowment is not sufficient to operate it successfully, we are planning to allow its use for fishing or day trips up and down the coast. Interested parties should get in touch with Secretary Fletcher at our Boston office or with John M. Abbot, Beverly Farms, chairman of the Local Committee.

The number of visitors this year was less than last year. The reason for this decline was the bad weather during May and June. The admittance charge to the Island was raised from 10 to 25 cents, but this would not seem to be enough to prevent the owner of a boat costing several thousand dollars from landing—especially since children are admitted at half price and there are special rates for parties.

It is the aim of the Local Committee to give the public the greatest possible use and enjoyment of the facilities of the island. We do not know of any other island near by where people are welcome and are provided with landing floats, fireplaces, and picnic tables, together with the services of a warden who helps them with their boats, provides firewood and shelter in case of rain.

Up to now, only the fortunate ones who own their own boats could go there. We want people who do not own boats to enjoy this lovely spot, too. Transportation facilities to the island can be secured through several different companies by writing Warden William Warwick, Manchester P. O., or by referring to the advertisements in the Manchester paper.

We are fortunate in having a warden who has been in charge of the island for many years and understands the public so well and does everything possible for their comfort. On the other hand, he will allow no misdemeanors, and he has been vested with authority by the police at Salem for that purpose.

#### MISSION HOUSE STOCKBRIDGE

(Center of Stockbridge. Look for sign.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

#### Miss Mabel Choate, Chairman

Charles A. Acly Mrs. Ralph M. Harden
Joseph H. Choate, III Lawrence K. Miller
Prof. Walter Prichard Eaton John P. Palmer

Miss Marian Hague Miss Rosamond Sherwood

Mrs. George Hall, Fiscal Agent Fletcher Steele

Mrs. Royal Treadway

(No report until next year as the property was not taken over until October, 1948.)

### MONUMENT MOUNTAIN GREAT BARRINGTON & STOCKBRIDGE

(Route No. 7. Look for large swinging sign.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

#### Edward F. Belches, Chairman

Edward H. Acton
Mrs. A. A. Berle, Jr.
George B. deGersdorff
Prof. Walter Prichard Eaton
Bernhard Hoffmann

D. Percy Morgan
Rodney Procter
Miss Alice B. Riggs
John Butler Swann
Robert K. Wheeler

The Monument Mountain Local Committee held its fall meeting at the reservation on Wednesday, October 20, 1948.

The financial report showed \$800.00 received in entrance fees and income from endowment against an expenditure of \$815.00. In view of the fact that May and June were so rainy as practically to eliminate visitors, this showing of daily income

and outgo was considered quite encouraging. It was therefore decided to continue the employment of a full time warden from May 15 to October 15, 1949.

A superficial survey of the south slope of the reservation disclosed what may be a small selective cutting of timber. Our intention is to have a competent forester look over the area in the spring and give an opinion upon which further action may be based, should it be approved by the Standing Committee of the Trustees.

Regretfully accepted were the resignations from the committee of Mr. Joseph Franz and of Mr. Robert K. Wheeler as Chairman. Mr. Wheeler will continue to take an active part in the affairs of the reservation and, for that, we are very grateful.

#### MOUNT ANN PARK GLOUCESTER

(Essex Avenue. Look for large swinging sign.)
LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Clarence Birdseye, Chairman

Mrs. Clarence Birdseye Rainer Mengelberg
Mrs. Francis I. Bush Mrs. Lincoln S. Simonds

Mount Ann Park has been visited by more people this year than ever before in its history.

The appointment of Mr. C. Farrell Marshall as warden of the reservation was made by the Standing Committee this year as Mr. Marshall lives close to the reservation and is much interested in it.

Secretary Fletcher has spent part of two days in painting the trees showing the direction of the paths leading to the summit. This method has been adopted in most of the Trustees' reservations, for it is almost impossible to keep wooden signs from being destroyed by vandals.

The hanging sign on Essex Avenue at the foot of New Way Lane has been repainted, and generally the reservation is in excellent condition. It is considered by many people who have visited it to be one of the most attractive reservations belonging to the Trustees, and Secretary Fletcher has received many pleasant notes about it.

# THE OLD MANSE CONCORD

(Monument Street. Look for large swinging sign.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Russell H. Kettell, Chairman

Mrs. Raymond Emerson Henry H. Fav Mrs. George S. Keyes Charles L. Ward, Fiscal Agent

I have the honor to report on the state of affairs at the Old Manse in Concord for the year 1948.

The start of 1949 finds us with a very much more solid and secure building, yet with still some distance to go before we can feel that the house is being kept in the condition that such a priceless national monument deserves. Chiefly the urgent and expensive need today is a painting job on the exterior—even ahead of the strengthened roof. If we are to save our old clapboards, many of which are probably original with the house, we must again give them the protection afforded by a good covering of paint.

For progress, we can report that new sills have been placed completely around the house and topped with a copper antitermite shield. No evidence of termites was found in the house, but beetles had started in a rather big way both in the attic and in the cellar. Affected woodwork was replaced or treated and we should be safe for many years to come.

It was in searching out the wood that had been weakened by borers that the workmen came upon a packet of letters that had fallen or been tucked down under a loose floor board of the fourth floor attic. Three of the manuscripts were of definite interest. There was a gloomy message of admonition from a pastor, William Hobby, ("From the Grave"). There was a portion of a letter from Rev. William Emerson to the mother of his bride soon-to-be. And most interesting of all, there was a letter that twelve year old Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote to his exacting and inspiring aunt, Mary Moody Emerson.

It was interesting to see the great appeal that the discovery of this little "Dear Aunt" letter had for the public. Released to the Boston papers and the Associated Press, its story not merely was written up and commented upon editorially locally, but also appeared in "Time," and was mentioned in a news broadcast across the country.

The two Emerson letters have been placed for safekeeping as a loan in with the other Emerson manuscripts in the Houghton Library at Harvard.

Considerable improvement has also been made upon the grounds, following the plan formulated in cooperation with the Reservations Committee. The overpowering growth of lilacs, locusts, and other thriving thickets, both around the rotting foundation of the house and along the boundary stone walls were thinned out to a point where by next year the place should look more as it does in some of our early photographs—ancient, but not deserted.

Some flower beds were brought back to life, and together with the summer house with its little reflecting pool were being enjoyed again by late summer visitors.

So went the year. While work was going on at the house, we tried the experiment of raising the admission charge from 25¢ to 50¢, with the result that of every ten persons who walked up to the door and read our sign, nine were frightened away. Once the house was in such shape that we could handle crowds again, we lowered our fee to 35¢ and we got our traffic as of yore.

During the season, 7730 visitors paid a total of \$2,649.04, from which the government took \$444.43, or about 17%.

The endowment drive, handled by the indefatigable Secretary Fletcher, has reached the sum of \$3450 gross—for 1948.

A special appeal, made for assistance in financing the new sills, raised \$1324, which though not sufficient to pay the whole bill, was nevertheless an appreciable help.

We are glad to be able to report that Mrs. Raymond Emerson is now a member of our committee.

### PETTICOAT HILL WILLIAMSBURG

(In center of town. Look for large swinging sign.)
LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Lewis H. Cranson, Chairman

Miss Dorcas Brigham Mrs. Lewis H. Cranson Prof. and Mrs. Robert F. Collins Mrs. C. N. Rhoades

Mr. Cranson, with some help, has cleared the trail from the entrance to the top where the Local Committee has made a clearing so that one can get an extensive view.

I believe the park is used by quite a few young people who like to cook over the fireplaces at the top and enjoy the unusually beautiful outlook. This is a favorite place for cookouts, and arrangements have been made so that sand surrounds the fireplaces to reduce the fire hazard.

As people are turning more and more to scenic views and hiking, this reservation will be increasingly attended.

### PINE AND HEMLOCK KNOLL WENHAM

(Pleasant Street)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

In status quo

#### ROCKY NARROWS SHERBORN

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

George Lewis, Jr., Chairman

Henry M. Channing D

Dr. Lincoln Davis

Dr. William E. Ladd Richard Saltonstall

Frederick Winant

Bradford Williams

On account of the wet weather we were not able to finish the work of clearing up the Island at the Gates of the Charles last spring. At that time a man was available to do wood work, but since then no wood choppers have been obtainable. If we have an open winter, we hope to complete the work.

The Trustees provided a new picnic table as the two old ones which we had had for more than ten years were no longer serviceable.

The reservation was frequently used during the summer.

#### ROCKY WOODS MEDFIELD

(Hartford Street. Look for large swinging sign.)
LOCAL COMMITTEE. 1949

Dr. Joel E. Goldthwait, Chairman

Frank G. Haley Alden Pember

Dana B. Jefferson Howard Tisdale

Miss Amelia Peabody James N. White

Mario Pederzini C. W. Wooldredge, Jr.

The year has been a busy one. With the severity of the winter and with the amount of snow and ice the possibility of doing something with "Winter Sports" offered a real challenge. To meet this a Ski Slope was prepared and one of the ponds (Lake Chickering) was cleared for skating. Both of these features were much appreciated and used to the capacity as it existed at that time. For the skiing two slopes were prepared, one a gentle one for beginners, the other more difficult for experts. As part of the equipment for the skiing a portable "Rope Tow" was purchased and was much used. For the skating the snow had to be removed with tractor plows and to insure smooth ice an Ice Planer was built and used.

All of this work gave much pleasure and served as training for the Committee; that will make for greater efficiency this year. One obvious need was a much more powerful Ski Tow and such a one is now being installed, the smaller one to be used on the Beginners Slope.

With the number of persons coming for these sports it became obvious that more space for the parking of the cars was necessary. The original area could accommodate about 20 cars. To

meet the increased need an adjoining piece of land was secured and developed that will accommodate about 100 cars.

With the increasing use of the reservation it became obvious that there should be a regular attendant in charge and on April first Mr. Melvin Thibeau was appointed Warden. Mr. Thibeau is also a Game Warden under the Department of Conservation of our State, and in that capacity is of very real help to the work of the reservation.

During the year a forty foot Steel Tower was built on the top of the highest hill (Cedar Hill) and from this very extended views are possible. This is a very popular climb for the hikers.

Facilities for the Summer Activities have been increased with added benches for rest or lunches and two of the Navy collapsible boats have been purchased and furnish much pleasure to the children.

As we realize the importance of the preservation of our wood-land, definite forestry work is being planned with Professor Parmenter, of the Forestry Department of our State University at Amherst, directing it subject to the approval of the Reservations Committee and of the Standing Committee of the Trustees. Professor Parmenter has been all over our property and made many valuable suggestions. Not only will this improve the woodland but with the thinning of the wood much valuable cord wood will be obtained, the selling of which will help in meeting the expenses of the reservation.

As this work goes on, it is hoped that other pieces of land may be added to be preserved and developed under the same management.

### CHARLES W. WARD RESERVATION ANDOVER

(Route No. 125 corner of Prospect Street. Look for large swinging sign.)

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Mrs. Charles W. Ward, *Chairman*Mrs. Charles C. Kimball George K. Sanborn

Our year of 1948 followed closely the pattern of 1947.

Easter Service was held with sixty-five assembled at the Solstice Stones.

Record of trampers as given by our State Forester was 485, also three church and two scout groups.

Reservation closed to all visitors by order of Governor Bradford September 9th to mid-October on account of prolonged drought. Clearing of a mile of through trails over old Chestnut Street and Holt Road.

Twenty No Hunting and Trapping signs posted. Pasturage on Holt and Boston Hills for 12 cows.

Bird Census December 19th, 8.15 A.M. to 9.45 A.M. was 12 species, with 60 birds seen.

George Sanborn and Philips Academy students gave a thorough going over to ski jump and ski trails.

Autumn foliage because of drought was briefer in duration but more brilliant in color than usual.

# WHITNEY WOODS AND THAYER WOODS COHASSET

Including Bancroft Sanctuary and Thayer Trail

(Route No. 3a. Look for large swinging sign marked "Entrance.")

LOCAL COMMITTEE, 1949

Nathan W. Bates, Chairman

Laurence B. Fletcher, ex officio Clarence H. Knowlton Dr. Henry F. Howe Prof. Hervey W. Shimer John Visser

The parking charge was increased slightly this year in order to increase revenue. There was no appreciable falling off in attendance after this increase. The total number of visitors amounted to 3,500 as against 4,000 during the 1947 season.

The Quincy Boy Scouts increased their activities in their area during this year. The well was cleaned out, sterilized and tested. They also built a rustic dining shelter. One thousand manhours were expended on the project.

Secretary Fletcher purchased ten much-needed portable fireplaces for the picnic grounds. They have proven very serviceable and convenient. Two more of the original picnic tables have been replaced with white cedar ones. Eventually all of the tables must be replaced as repairing them is impractical due to the poor condition of the wood. The picnic is still the biggest attraction at the woods.

The Cohasset Sportsmen's Club asked for permission to create an area for skating at the Bancroft Sanctuary Pond. Permission was granted with the proviso that no fee be charged by the club and that the area be open for all to use. A skating area will be a distinct asset, and it will not interfere with the Sanctuary's normal use in any way.

The Trustees made one small addition of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres this year by a tax title purchase. The price was most reasonable. We have been offered a 38 acre tract, between Turkey Hill and the Chief Justice Cushing Highway. The price seemed too high for us to recommend that the Trustees buy it at this time.

The committee is again up to full strength with the addition of Dr. Henry F. Howe, who is filling the place of his illustrious father the late Dr. Oliver H. Howe, who for many years was the driving force of our local committee.

# RESERVATIONS WHICH THE TRUSTEES HAVE HELPED TO SECURE



# PRESERVED AND MAINTAINED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Secured		Acres
1892	Virginia Woods, Middlesex Fells	20
1893	Metropolitan Park System, Boston	
1893	Province Lands, Cape Cod	2,000
1902	Pine Knoll, Sheffield	6
1907	Harvard Forest, Petersham	2,100
1929	Old Town Hill, Newbury	25
1933	Boxford State Forest, Boxford	500
1933	Georgetown Rowley State Forest, Rowley	700
1934	Breakheart Hill, Saugus and Wakefield	650
1934	Roland C. Nickerson Forest Park, Brewster	1,500
1934	John C. Robinson State Park, Agawam	1,100
1935	Coes Pond, Worcester	7
1935	Gore Place, Waltham and Watertown	80
1936	Watatic Mountain, Ashburnham	130
1937	Willowdale State Forest, Ipswich and Topsfield .	1,900
1937	Allen's Ledge, Sharon (additional to	
	Massachusetts Audubon Society's Sanctuary).	38
1942	Sudbury House and Gardens of Joseph E. Chandler	150
1942	Joseph A. Skinner State Park, Hadley	375
	Total	11,281

#### THE AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

#### FOR CONSERVATION

#### HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- 1933 Dr. John C. Phillips
- 1934 Samuel A. York
- 1935 William P. Wharton
- 1936 John S. Ames
- 1937 Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby
- 1938 John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
- 1939 Mrs. James J. Storrow
- 1940 Newton Bishop Drury
- 1941 Robert Moses
- 1942 Frederick Law Olmsted
- 1943 William Sumner Appleton
- 1944 Jay Norwood Darling
- 1945 Charles Sumner Bird
- 1946 Harlan Page Kelsey
- 1947 Harris Aquilla Reynolds
- 1948 Laurence Brown Fletcher

#### MEMBERSHIPS IN

#### THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS

#### Incorporated 1891



Contributing Member		٠.			less than \$10.00
Associate Member .	٠				\$10.00 or more
Life Associate					\$100.00
Founder					. \$1,000.00

We have no annual dues. All subscriptions are voluntary.

The Society's work is made possible through its revenues from voluntary subscriptions, special contributions, and endowments. If our membership can be increased, these activities can be intensified.



Contributions to The Trustees may be deducted from your net income subject to Federal Income Tax.

ALLAN FORBES, Treasurer

State Street Trust Co., Boston.

#### FOUNDERS

Donors of money or property to the value of \$1000 and upwards since the foundation of

THE TRUSTEES in 1891

This list does not include many founders, such as Charles ELIOT, CHARLES SPRAGUE SARGENT, NATHANIEL S. SHALER, HENRY P. WALCOTT and others who have rendered service to The Trustees which cannot be valued in money.

1892
*Mrs. Fanny Foster Tudor, Boston Virginia Wood *Miss Ellen Chase, Brookline \$1000 Donation
*Joseph Story Fay, Falmouth Goodwill Park
1897
*Augustus Hemenway, Canton
*Mrs. Mary E. Cunningham, Brookline  *Mrs. John M. Forbes, Milton  EDWARD W. Forbes, Cambridge  *J. Malcolm Forbes, Milton  *George R. R. Rivers, Milton  *Miss Mary Rivers, Milton  *Mrs. K. G. T. Webster, Cambridge  *George Wigglesworth, Milton  *Beorge Wigglesworth, Milton  *Beorge Wigglesworth, Milton  *Beorge Wigglesworth, Milton  *1899
*Miss Helen C. Butler, New York Monument Mountain Reservation with \$2000 endowment
1902
*Joseph S. Glover, Boston \$2000 Legacy
1903
*Miss Mary E. Dewey, Boston Pine Knoll with \$1000 endowment
1905
*Mrs. Edward W. Nash, Boston Petticoat Hill with \$1000 endowment
1906
*Miss Helen C. Butler, New York Additional \$5000 donation for Monument Mountain Reservation
1913
*Miss Sarah B. Fay, Falmouth   Additional land in Goodwill *Henry H. Fay, Falmouth   Park

\*Deceased.

		1914			
*Henry Pickering, Boston .		 1923	٠		\$5000 Legacy
*Arthur F. Estabrook, Boston		 1929			\$30,500 Legacy
*Mrs. Minna Godwin Goddard,	Ne		rk		Bryant Homestead with \$10,000 endowment
CONRAD G. GODDARD, New York *GEORGE WIGGLESWORTH, Milton		1930			Bryant Memorabilia \$1000 Donation for Mount Ann Park
*Miss Julia Sands Bryant, New	Yo				\$10,000 Legacy for Bryant Homestead
		1931			
*George Wigglesworth, Milton		 1933			\$5000 Legacy
JOHN S. AMES, Boston *ARTHUR N. MILLIKEN, Boston					\$2096 Donation \$5000 Donation for Whitney Woods
*John C. Phillips, Wenham .		 1934			\$1500 Donation
*John C. Phillips, Wenham .					\$1000 Donation for Halibut Point
		1935			
Miss Helen C. Frick, Pittsburg	gh				\$1600 Donation for Misery Island
Mrs. William H. Moore, New	Yo	rk .			\$1700 Donation for Misery Island
		1936			
*James S. Lee, Boston				. (	Magnolia Shore
*Mrs. James S. Lee, Boston . Mrs. William H. Moore, New		 rk .		. {	\$1100 Donation for Misery
*John C. Phillips, Wenham .					Island Wenham Pine and Hemlock Knoll
		1937			Knon
CHARLES S. BIRD, Walpole .		1937			\$1000 Donation for various
*Richard W. Hale, Dover .	•		•		publications Additional land in Medfield
*Mrs. James J. Storrow, Lincoln	n.				Rhododendron Reservation \$2500 Donation for Dinosaur
The second secon		1938			Footprints at Holyoke
CHARLES S. BIRD, Walpole .		1,000			\$1000 Donation for Activities of
*Mrs. James J. Storrow, Lincoln	n.				the Standing Committee \$1000 Donation for Purchase of
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		1939			Old Manse at Concord
CHARLES S. BIRD, Walpole .					\$350 Donation for purchase of
The state of the s					\$650 Donation for Activities of the Standing Committee

WILLIAM EMERSON, Cambridge	\$5000 Donation for purchase of
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., New York .	Old Manse at Concord \$1000 Donation for purchase of Old Manse at Concord
F C H	Design of the standard
Estate of Theodore C. Hollander	Donation of 5 acres of land and house at Misery Island
Mrs. Charles W. Ward, Andover	Charles W. Ward Reservation, 160 acres in Andover, with \$5000 endowment
E W Errogen Betereben	Filian Barrasian 25 anns in
F. W. Elliott, Petersham	Elliott Reservation, 25 acres in Phillipston
Miss Olive Simes, Boston	\$2000 Endowment for Elliott Reservation in Phillipston
Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis, Jr., Sherborn	
1942	D 1 111 1 D 1 200
Dr. Joel E. Goldthwait, Medfield	Rocky Woods Reservation, 300 acres in Medfield, with en-
*A. Lawrence Lowell, Cambridge	dowment Lowell Holly Reservation, 130 acres in Mashpee and Sandwich, with \$10,000 endowment
1943	wien, with \$10,000 endowment
Mrs. Ezra R. Thayer, Hingham	Addition of 28 acres in Whitney Woods, Cohasset
Dr. Charles F. Stube, Rockport	Addition of 5 acres in Halibut Point Reservation, Rockport
1944	, ·
Cornelius Crane, Ipswich	\$1000 Contribution to the Gen- eral Fund
CHARLES S. BIRD, Walpole	\$1000 Donation for Bay Circuit Map and 1800 feet of colored motion pictures for Bay Cir- cuit Lecture
Francis C. Holmes, Plymouth	Holmes Reservation, 20 acres in Plymouth, with \$5000 en-
*Miss Helen W. Holmes, Plymouth	dowment Holmes Reservation, 20 acres in Plymouth, with \$5000 en- dowment
Dr. Joel E. Goldthwait, Medfield	Endowment for Rocky Woods Reservation from 1942 through
*I D	1945, \$10,000
*John Balch, Milton	Endowment for Governor Hutch- inson's Field, Milton, \$5000
PAUL B. Morgan, Worcester	\$1500 Donation towards the pur- chase of Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield
Estate of Mrs. Edward W. Nash	\$2,914.33 legacy for care, maintenance and improvement of
Miss Amelia Peabody, Boston	Petricoat Hill \$1000 Donation towards the pur- chase of Bartholomew's Cobble,
*Deceased	Sheffield

MRS. RICHARD T. CRANE, JR., Ipswich .	Richard T. Crane, Jr., Memorial Reservation, 1000 acres of beach and dunes formerly known as Ipswich Beach, Ipswich
IPSWICH BEACH ASSOCIATION, INC	\$4,703.85 to be used by The Trustees solely for the benefit, maintenance, development, and improvement of the property conveyed by Mrs. R. T. Crane, Jr., known as the Richard T. Crane, Jr. Memorial Reservation
CORNELIUS CRANE, Ipswich	\$4000 Contribution to the General Fund
1946	
Paul B. Morgan, Worcester	\$1000 Donation towards the pur- chase of Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield
GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA, New York .	\$1200 from the Founders Fund towards the purchase of Bar- tholomew's Cobble, Sheffield
Cornelius Crane, Ipswich	\$3000 contribution to the General Fund
Anonymous (In memory of Edith Parsons Morgan)	
Stockbridge	\$1000 Donation towards the pur- chase and maintenance of Bar- tholomew's Cobble, Sheffield
Miss Amelia Peabody, Boston	\$1000 Contribution to the General Fund
1947	
MISS MABEL CHOATE	\$1000 Contribution to the General Fund
Cornelius Crane	\$3000 Contribution to the General Fund
Miss Amelia Peabody	\$500 Contribution to General Fund \$500 Contribution for mainte-
	nance of Bartholomew's Cobble
SPECIAL G	HETS
SI LEIAL G	11 10
1948	
Cornelius Crane	\$2,564.56 Contribution to General Fund

l jeep fully equipped for firefighting for Crane's Beach, appraised at \$2350

#### SPECIAL GIFTS (Continued)

1 motor boat, 36 ft. long for Misery Island, appraised at \$2500

1 inhalator for life-saving, for Crane's Beach, appraised at \$250

Dr. Joel E. Goldthwait . . . . . \$8000 Contribution to General Fund

STOCKBRIDGE MISSION HOUSE ASSOCIATION MISS MABEL CHOATE . . . \$100,000

1 station wagon for Rocky Woods, appraised at \$500

Mission House, Stockbridge

Endowment for maintenance of the Mission House, Stockbridge



APOCRYPHAL PORTRAIT OF REV. JOHN SERGEANT, CAPT. KONKAPOT AND LT. UMPACHENE, AND CHILDREN. ARTIST UNKNOWN. CIRCA 1780
Gift of Rodney Sharp, Wilmington, Delaware, to the Stockbridge Mission House Association, 1945

#### LIFE ASSOCIATES

Donors of Property of a Value of, or of Sums of, not less than \$100

MISS CONSTANCE L. ABBOTT	(1932)	Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby	(1932)
*Mrs. Gordon Abbott	(1934)	Mrs. Francis B. Crowninsh	IELD
Gordon Abbott, Jr.	(1935)		(1934)
Mrs. George R. Agassiz	(1938)	Mrs. Alan Cunningham	(1939)
PHILIP R. ALLEN	(1940)	Mrs. John S. Curtis	(1935)
John S. Ames	(1932)	Miss Mary Curtis	(1937)
Mrs. John S. Ames	(1938)	RICHARD C. CURTIS	(1935)
*Mrs. Oliver Ames	(1935)	ROBERT CUTLER	(1937)
Mrs. Winthrop Ames	(1939)	Mrs. Theodore Dangelmay	ER
Anonymous	(1947)		(1940)
Paul T. Babson	(1943)	F. HAROLD DANIELS	(1940)
Mrs. Standish Backus	(1935)	Mrs. Richard E. Danielson	(1935)
HARRY L. BAILEY	(1948)	*Charles M. Davenport	(1938)
*John Balch	(1941)	Miss Helen I. Davis	(1946)
*Mrs. John Balch	(1944)	Mrs. Walter D. Denegre	(1935)
Mrs. Hugh Bancroft	(1940)	Mrs. Franklin Dexter	(1935)
MISS JANE BANCROFT	(1938)	MISS FLORENCE S. DUSTIN	(1944)
*Dr. Thomas Barbour	(1937)	Mr. and Mrs. Walter Price	
CHARLES B. BARNES	(1941)	Eaton	(1946)
MISS BESS B. BARTLETT	(1947)	WILLIAM ELLERY	(1932)
Mrs. John W. Bartol	(1940)	F. W. Elliott	(1941)
ESTATE OF FRANK B. BEMIS	(1935)	Mrs. John L. Emerson	(1939)
BERKSHIRE EAGLE	(1945)	RAYMOND EMERSON	(1929)
MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM A.	()	Mrs. Raymond Emerson	(1939)
Berridge	(1948)	WILLIAM EMERSON	(1935)
F. S. Beveridge	(1946)	Mrs. William Emerson	(1938)
ROBERT M. BOWEN	(1946)	EUGENE ENDICOTT	(1935)
CHANDLER BIGELOW	(1935)	MISS CAROLINE H. FABENS	(1946)
CHARLES S. BIRD	(1934)	HENRY H. FAY	(1946)
Mrs. Charles S. Bird	(1935)	S. H. Fessenden	(1935)
MISS HARRIET G. BIRD	(1939)	Miss Margaret A. Fish	(1935)
Mrs. Thomas H. Blodgett	(1945)	Mrs. Richard T. Fisher	(1937)
ESTATE OF B. G. BOARDMAN	(1935)	LAURENCE B. FLETCHER	(1930)
RALPH BRADLEY	(1935)	Dr. Alexander Forbes	(1935)
*Robert S. Bradley	(1935)	Mrs. Alexander Forbes	(1937)
*George W. W. Brewster	(1947)	EDWARD W. FORBES	(1939)
LAWRENCE G. BROOKS	(1941)	Mrs. R. E. Forbes	(1939)
I. Tucker Burr	(1937)	W. CAMERON FORBES	(1938)
Mrs. Albert C. Burrage	(1935)	Mrs. Waldo E. Forbes	(1944)
STEDMAN BUTTRICK	(1938)	Francis E. Frothingham	(1947)
GODFREY L. CABOT	(1936)	Mrs. Louis A. Frothingham	
THOMAS D. CABOT	(1939)	*Mrs. Homer Gage	(1935)
*Miss Louisa Case	(1939)	ROBERT T. GANNETT	(1941)
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Frederick H. Chase	(1942) $(1938)$	ROLAND GRAY	(1937)
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*Stephen J. Connolly	(1937)	HARVEY	(1940)
Mrs. William Adams Copel		Mrs. Conrad P. Hatheway	
Ca C	(1937)	Trustees of Haven Land Tr	(1935)
CORNELIUS CRANE *Deceased.	(1941)		(1933)
Deci adeu.			

Mrs. Augustus Hemenway	(1945)	ROBERT TREAT PAINE	(1937)
Mrs. John W. Higgins	(1945)	*Robert Treat Paine, 2nd	(1935)
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H. D. Hodgkinson	(1944)	James Duncan Phillips	(1946)
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Edward A. Jacobs	(1945)	VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCI	
Mrs. Bayard James	(1945)	PIGEON COVE, ROCKPORT	(1934)
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M F I V	(1948)	NEAL RANTOUL, TRUSTEE	(1935)
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Russell H. Kettell	(1944)	MISS BERTHA F. ROGERS	(1948) (1936)
Mrs. George S. Keyes *Mrs. Henry P. King	(1943)	RICHARD SALTONSTALL MRS. RICHARD M. SALTONSTA	
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MISS AIMEE LAMB	(1939)	PORTER SARGENT	(1933) $(1948)$
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*Deceased,	(1)11)	PHILIP W. WRENN	(1934)
Deceased,		I HILLF IV. VIKENN	(1754)

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Crane, Mis. Planeis V	Downes, Mis. Jeronic 1. 11.
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## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

#### BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 1948

Endowment Funds

Endowment Assets: Investments at Book Value—Schedule 1 (Approximate market value \$229,000.00)		\$225,711.42
Cash in Banks—Schedule 2		3,277.99
Due from Current Operating Funds		5,244.12
		\$234,233.53
Endowment Principal: Principal of Endowment Funds		\$234,233.53
Current Operating Funds		
Current Assets:		0 500 ((
Cash in Banks—Schedule 2 Current Liabilities and Surplus:		\$ 8,532.66
Due to Endowment Funds		\$ 5,244.12
Surplus:		* 0,=
General Operating Fund—Schedule 3	\$ 814.54	
Project balances (net)—Schedule 4	2,474.00	3,288.54
Note: The accounts of the Trustees are maintained	on a "cash"	\$ 8,532.66
basis.		
SCHEDULE 1		
Investment of Endowment Funds—as at D (Exclusive of Investments of the Stockbridge Mission	ecember 31, 1 House Endo Book value	948 wment Fund)
Common stocks	\$81,818.62	
Preferred stocks	20,491.97	
Bonds	29,680.25	
Total endowment		\$131,990.84
Mission House Fund		
Common stocks	\$52,524.71	
U. S. Certificates of Indebtedness	41,195.87	
		93,720.58
Total (per balance sheet)		\$225,711.42
SCHEDULE 2 Cash in Banks		
Endowment Funds:		
State Street Trust Co.		
Principal account		\$ 2,412.67
The Stockbridge Mission House Endowment Fur	ıd	865.32
Current Operating Funds: Total (per balance sheet)		\$ 3,277.99
State Street Trust Co.		
Operating account		\$ 1,221.01
Stockbridge Mission House Operating account		419.00
Bank accounts in the name of the Trustees and fisc	al agents:	
The First National Bank of Ipswich		6,051.47
The Concord National Bank		327.56 513.62
Middlesex Institution for Savings		
Total (per balance sheet)		\$ 8,532.66

### REPORT OF THE TREASURER

#### SCHEDULE 3

Statement of General Operating Fund Surplus for the Year Ended December 31, 1948

Balance, December 31, 1947		\$	3,261.13
Adjustments as of January 1, 1948 applicable to prior years, net	1947 and		4,110.37
		\$	7,371.50
Income:			
Membership contributions \$ Gifts	5,491.00 10,564.56		
Income from investments (including proportion of investment income of project endowments—	0 (00 45		
20%) Proportion of annual net income from operation	2,639.45		
of Crane Reservation	1,200.00		
Other receipts	1,766.80	2	21,661.81
_		\$ :	29,033.31
Deduct:			
Expenditures and Transfers:			
	12,651.30		
Rent, light, telephone, etc.	1,877.95		
Printing, circulars, etc.	3,918.67		
Other expenditures	3,358.42		
Transfers to project accounts:			
For Rocky Woods project net expenses income			
included in gifts to General Operating Fund)	5,989.54		
For small deficits in unendowed reservations	422.89	2	28,218.77
Balance, December 31, 1948 (per balance sheet)		\$	814.54

#### SCHEDULE 4

Statement of Project Surplus and Deficit as at December 31, 1948 Project Accounts with Surplus Balances:

William Cullen Bryant Homestead	\$985.18
Governor Hutchinson's Field	81.24
Mount Ann Park	23.60
Petticoat Hill Reservation	303.45
Charles W. Ward Reservation	97.84
Whitney Woods Reservation	189.81
George Wigglesworth Fund	179.79
Rocky Narrows Reservation	96.86
Elliott Reservation	237.37
Lowell Holly Reservation	258.39
Holmes Reservation	982.91
Richard T. Crane, Jr., Memorial Reservation	5,188.44
Old Manse	12.29
Medfield Rhododendrons	100.00
The Stockbridge Mission House	419.00

Total surplus balances,

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Project Accounts with Deficit Balances:

Bartholomew's Cobble	\$ 284.60
*Dinosaur Footprints	3,273.97
*Halibut Point	1,710.41
Misery Island	198.10
Monument Mountain	498.59
Old Manse—Emergency Fund	716.50

Total deficit balances

6,682.17

Project balances (net surplus per balance sheet)

\$ 2,474.00

ALLAN FORBES, Esq., Treasurer Boston, Massachusetts. January 25, 1949.

Dear Mr. Forbes:

As you requested, I have examined the books of The Trustees of Public Reservations for the year ending December 31, 1948.

The books show that all payments have been posted, supported by proper vouchers, receipts entered and deposited, and the checkbook reconciled with the bank statement. The Trust securities held in the safe deposit box are in check with the book records.

I certify that the assets and liabilities, as shown on the balance sheet, fairly set forth the condition of the Trust property, as at December 31,1948.

Very truly yours, ERNEST E. JOBLING, Auditor.

<sup>\*</sup>Purchase of property by interest-bearing notes.

### ACT OF INCORPORATION

# AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS

Chapter 352, Acts of 1891 Massachusetts General Court

Section I. Frederick L. Ames, Philip A. Chase, Christopher Clarke, Charles R. Codman, Elisha S. Converse, George F. Hoar, John J. Russell, Leverett Saltonstall, Charles S. Sargent, Nathaniel S. Shaler, George Sheldon, William S. Shurtleff, George H. Tucker, Francis A. Walker, George Wigglesworth, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation by the name of The Trusters of Public Reservations, for the purpose of acquiring, holding, arranging, maintaining, and opening to the public, under suitable regulations, beautiful and historical places and tracts of land within this Commonwealth, with the powers and privileges and subject to the duties set forth in chapter one hundred and fifteen of the Public Statutes and in such other general laws as now are or hereafter may be in force relating to such corporation; but said corporation shall have no capital stock.

Section 2. Said corporation may acquire and hold by grant, gift, devise, purchase, or otherwise, real estate such as it may deem worthy of preservation for the enjoyment of the public, but not exceeding one million dollars in value, and such other property, both real and person, as may be necessary or proper to support or promote the objects of the corporation, but not exceeding in the aggregate the further sum of one million dollars.

Section 3. All personal property heid by said corporation, and all lands which it may cause to be opened and kept open to the public, and all lands which it may acquire and hold with this object in view, shall be exempt from taxation, in the same manner and to the same extent as the property of literary, benevolent, charitable, and scientific institutions incorporated within this Commonwealth is now exempt by law; but no lands so acquired and held and not open to the public shall be so exempt from taxation for a longer period than two years. Said corporation shall never make any division or dividend of or from its property or income among its members.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

## Form of Bequest



In making your will we suggest a bequest to The Trustees of Public Reservations.

"I give, devise and bequeath to The Trustees of Public Reservations, a Corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the sum of \$\frac{1}{2}\tag{1}\tag{1}\tag{2}\t

Your bequest will bring lasting and widespread benefits for acquiring and maintaining beautiful and historic places in Massachusetts, open to the public under suitable regulations.

Societies and individuals interested in Massachusetts history, natural history, scenery, and town and country improvement are invited to contribute to the working funds of this Board, in the form of three memberships.

"Contrary to a fairly widely held belief, the Trust is not an offshoot of a Government Department, nor is it sponsored by the State, although it works in harmony with it. It does not even enjoy the benefit of any subsidy from public funds and is, in fact, solely able to carry on its work through subscriptions, gifts, legacies, and the comparatively small sum received annually as income from some of the properties owned by the Trust."

The Treasurer is Allan Forbes of the State Street Trust Company.

LAURENCE B. FLETCHER, Secretary.

## DUTIES AND PURPOSES

of

## THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS

The duties and purposes of The Trustees of Public Reservations as a private organization established by act of Legislature in 1891 are:

- To save some of the irreplaceable scenic and historic assets of the Commonwealth.
- 2. To list and acquire by gift or purchase and maintain outstanding places of natural beauty or historic interest and maintain them unspoiled for the benefit and enjoyment of the public.

## The Trustees' policy is:

- To appoint local committees to administer the reservations entrusted to our care under suitable regulations established by the Trustees.
- To help the development of sound plans for greater opportunities of recreation and conservation in Massachusetts.

DOES not the landscape deserve attention? What are the natural features which make a township handsome?

A river, with its waterfalls and meadows, a lake, a hill, a cliff or individual rocks, a forest, and ancient trees standing singly. Such things are beautiful; they have a high use which dollars and cents never represent.

If the inhabitants of a town were wise, they would seek to preserve these things, though at a considerable expense.

It would be worth while if in each town a committee were appointed to see that the beauty of the town received no detriment. If we have the biggest bowlder in the country, then it should not belong to an individual, nor be made into a doorstep. As in many countries precious metals belong to the crown, so here more precious natural objects of rare beauty should belong to the public.

HENRY DAVID THOREAU